American Culture Studies

The Graduate Certificate in American Culture Studies (AMCS) enables doctoral students to develop multidisciplinary expertise and encourages them to bring that added competence to bear in dissertation research that, while satisfying the demands of their principal disciplines, is broad-based and informed by studies from across the humanities and the social sciences.

AMCS brings together a community of graduate students and faculty with overlapping interests in American topics. Through formal and informal intellectual exchange, they share knowledge, methods and ideas across the boundaries that define the traditional academic disciplines. This intellectual community promotes the give-and-take of ideas, making graduate study more stimulating and graduate research more original and creative.

Students who satisfy certificate requirements will receive the Graduate Certificate in American Culture Studies along with the award of the PhD. This is one of several interdisciplinary certificates offered by the Graduate School. The certificate helps its holders to build academic careers — including careers that involve interdisciplinary teaching — and to develop distinctive research profiles.

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Website: https://amcs.wustl.edu/phd-certificate

Faculty

The American Culture Studies program is enriched by its diverse community of faculty, lecturers, students and staff. Please visit our AMCS Directory webpage (https://amcs.wustl.edu/people/88) for a description and list of our teaching and affiliated faculty and other important members of our community.

Degree Requirements

Graduate Certificate in American Culture Studies

The Graduate Certificate in American Culture Studies is awarded to students who complete the PhD in a department of the Graduate School and who satisfy the following requirements:

- **Two multidisciplinary courses** (6 credits) on American topics (400 level or above) designed in explicitly multidisciplinary terms. Courses that satisfy this requirement will be determined in consultation with the graduate director.
- **Two extradepartmental courses** (6 credits) on American topics (400 level or above) based in fields that complement course work in the home department, to be determined in consultation with the graduate director.
- **Routine consultation with an AMCS faculty adviser outside of the home department, in addition to consultation with the student's principal PhD adviser.**
  - This faculty member is often the program's director of graduate studies.
- **Completion of a PhD dissertation in the home department, with the AMCS faculty adviser serving as one of the “outside” readers on the oral defense committee and the dissertation defense committee.**
- **Maintenance of good standing within the AMCS program through regular participation in program functions and events.**
  - **Americanist Forums.** Attendance at the monthly Monday (3-5 p.m.) colloquium series is mandatory, with exceptions related to residency, leaves, fieldwork and dissertation research.

For more information about program activities and requirements, please visit our Graduate Studies webpage.